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HEADLINE: New UM President Mote Promises To Take University to Next Level

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BODY:

Clayton Daniel Mote Jr., a respected scholar and successful college fund-raiser in California, said yesterday he feels lucky to be chosen the next president of the University of Maryland's flagship campus. As vice chancellor for fund raising and public relations for the University of California at Berkeley, Mote raised three-quarters of a \$ 1.1 billion goal set for the end of 2000. Maryland officials hope he'll bring his Midas touch here. Mote said the College Park campus is poised to become one of the top 10 public universities in the country. With support from faculty, regents and Gov. Parris Glendening, Mote intends to help the school take that next step. "The bud of the flagship is poised to bloom," said Mote, 61, who spent nearly his entire adult career at Berkeley as a student, professor and administrator. "I'm thrilled to have an opportunity to be in this position." Mote, who has written 300 research papers on mechanical engineering and holds patents in four countries, said his tenure will be graded in rankings by the National Research Council and U.S. News and World Report. He will also look to a broader recruitment of students and faculty as a reflection of the school's progress. Mote's prowess for raising money from private sources dwarfs a current Maryland program to raise \$ 350 million in five years. But as private giving grew at Berkeley, the state portion of the school's budget fell from 80 percent three decades ago to 30 percent in recent years. The University of Maryland is also struggling to obtain more funding from the state Legislature. William "Brit" Kirwan, who left the Maryland presidency after 34 years at the school to become president of Ohio State University on July 1, complained about scant support from state lawmakers for increasing spending on higher education. When Kirwan became the president in 1989, the General Assembly promised to dedicate more money to the College Park campus. But adjusted for inflation, state funding has actually fallen by 35 percent from 1990 to 1995, according to a university report. Mote said with 140,000 alumni out of 190,000 still living in Maryland, there is great potential for letter writing and lobbying for state funds.

"You just need to rally your whole family together, basically," Mote said. University System Chancellor Donald Langenberg said Mote brings instant credibility to the post -- both to private donors and lawmakers -- because of his success at Berkeley. "I don't know of any better way to prove that you can raise funds than to do it," Langenberg said.

Already Glendening and the Legislature budgeted an extra \$ 64 million this year for universities statewide, and College Park got an extra \$ 7 million beyond that from the budget surplus. Mote is a mechanical engineer who rose from the ranks of faculty to administration in his 31 years at Berkeley. Mote has kept his research interests alive over the years, with studies leading to the development of safer saw blades and ski-boot bindings. After gaining Berkeley's attention by winning private grants to create three endowed chairs at the mechanical engineering department, Mote was

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made the school's top fund-raiser in 1991, just as it was hit by state budget cutbacks in the recession years of the early 1990s. Mote and Kirwan were candidates last year to succeed former Berkeley Chancellor Chang-Lin Tien. Mote was passed up for the job and Kirwan took himself out of the running. Mote, a San Francisco native, received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at Berkeley. He was awarded the school's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1971, and last year was made an honorary member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers International.

Kirwan made \$ 200,000 a year as president. Mote will earn \$ 250,000, which is a competitive salary for the position, Langenberg said.

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